

Region 3 GPRA Baseline RCRA Corrective Action Facility

Hercules Incorporated

**27123 Shady Brook Trail
Courtland, VA 23837-2034
Congressional District 4
EPA ID #: VAD003122165
Last Updated 06/02/03**

Current Progress at the Site

On October 28, 1999, Hercules entered into a USEPA Region III Facility-Lead Agreement (Agreement) under RCRA, formally agreeing to conduct environmental investigations of the Franklin, Virginia facility and perform remediation, where appropriate, to meet the RCRA Corrective Action Goals. This facility is a USEPA High Priority RCRA Corrective Action site.

Hercules has completed most of the site characterization as well as remediation of several solid waste management units. The first phase of site characterization and limited remediation is documented in a Release Assessment (ERM; March 1999) and the second phase of site characterization is documented in a Release Assessment Addendum (GES; January 2002). It is anticipated that documentation of the more significant remediation performed to date will be submitted to the USEPA by the end of June 2003. The Facility has submitted its October 2000 and October 2001 annual reports as required under the October 1999 Agreement and provided its schedule of additional work.

EPA approved the Quality Assurance Project Plan for all future site investigations, that Hercules submitted in March 2003. Hercules is currently developing sampling plans for four additional focused investigations. Hercules has made significant progress in assessing site contamination, as documented in the Release Assessment and Addendum, however in 2003, EPA will evaluate whether the site is adequately characterized/assessed, and what, if any, sampling should be done to complete characterization. Hercules has agreed to and continues to address identified releases to meet the RCRA Corrective Action Goals.

Site Description

The Hercules Franklin, Virginia facility is located on approximately 120 acres at the intersection of Routes 671 and 650 in Franklin, Virginia. Since 1955, the facility has been a chemical processing plant primarily producing rosin, fatty acids and organic peroxides. The primary raw material used at the facility is Tall Oil derived from the wood pulping industry. Historically, it has managed wastes in on-site landfills, a spray field, lagoons and pits. The current processes generate wastewater, non-contact cooling water, biological sludge and small quantities of spent solvents from the on-site quality control laboratory.

In 2001, Hercules sold two of the three business units that operate at the facility while maintaining ownership of the facility property. The resins business was sold to Eastman Chemical Resins, Inc. and the organic peroxides business was sold to GEO Specialty Chemical Company. Hercules retained the Aqualon business and responsibility for the Agreement.

Site Responsibility

RCRA Corrective Action activities at this facility are being conducted under the direction of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, Philadelphia, PA.

Contaminants

The site characterization data indicate that onsite soil and groundwater contain 1,2 -dichloropropane (PDC), benzene, acetone, phenols and total petroleum hydrocarbons. After completion and acceptance of the site characterization, the USEPA and Hercules will evaluate the site characterization data to determine if Human Exposures and Groundwater Releases at the facility are controlled.

Community Interaction

The Facility has developed a community relations plan that is a part of the Agreement. Public participation is included as appropriate.

Government Contacts

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For more information about EPA's corrective action webpage, including Environmental Indicators, please visit our site at: www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm

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